

Afghanistan – Maidan Wardak, Logar, Parwan & Nangarhar Provinces

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)



FACT SHEET

The Afghanistan – Provinces GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Afghanistan could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Afghanistan - Provinces GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 8-10, conducted in 2004.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for the four Provinces. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 81%, and the overall response rate was 81%. A total of 1,567 students participated in the Afghanistan - Provinces GYTS.

Prevalence

32.9% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 35.7%, Girl = 20.2%)
 19.6% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 21.7%, Girl = 11.2%)
 13.4% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 15.5%, Girl = 4.5%)
 12.0% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 12.8%, Girl = 8.0%)
 6.5% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

35.4% think boys and 22.5% think girls who smoke have more friends
 37.0% think boys and 51.0% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

13.5% usually smoke at home
 59.7% buy cigarettes in a store
 59.6% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

38.7% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 55.0% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 59.8% think smoking should be banned from public places
 64.6% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 25.3% have one or more parents who smoke
 22.5% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

72.9% want to stop smoking
 80.5% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 86.7% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

75.1% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 56.8% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 41.3% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 24.0% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 19.8% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

53.8% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 53.5% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 52.1% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 20% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 13.4% currently smoke cigarettes; 12.0% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is high – Almost 4 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; over 5 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; over 2 in 10 have parents who smoke.
- Almost 6 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- 7 in 10 smokers want to stop smoking now.
- Over 7 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; over 4 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in the past 30 days; 24% of the students have an object with a cigarette brand logo on it; and 20% of the students were offered a free cigarette by a tobacco company representative.